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Date: April 9, 2001

Ponio V. malean

APR 1 7 2001

PATENT 27877.66

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: 2721

In re application of:

Seisuke MORIOKA et al.

Serial No.: 09/423,415

Filing Date: November 5, 1999

For: IMAGE PROCESSING UNIT AND

IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD

RECEIVED

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Technology Center 2000

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, submitted herewith are copies of references cited in the enclosed search report of a corresponding European patent application. For the Examiner's convenience we have enclosed a completed Form PTO-1449. The statement is not a representation that all of the information cited is necessarily effective as prior art against the application.

Applicants certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application not more than three months prior to the date of this statement. Accordingly, no fee is necessary for the filing of this statement. Should the Commissioner determine otherwise, the

Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1353 for any fee shortages, including the petition fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Applicant(s) respectfully request(s) that the disclosed reference(s) be made of record in the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 9, 2001

Christopher A. Bennett Attorney for Applicant(s)

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